



Isiah Leggett, County Executive
Timothy Firestone, Chief Administrator Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director
Mark Firley, UCAB Chair

February 5, 2016

Emergency Repairs on Middlebrook Road in Germantown Will Close Two Lanes This Weekend

This weekend, MCDOT's Division of Highway Services will be making emergency culvert repairs on Middlebrook Road between Great Seneca Highway and Cross Ridge Drive that will require lane closures. The two eastbound lanes on Middlebrook and the right turn lane on Great Seneca Highway will be closed to traffic beginning Friday, February 5 at 7:30 p.m. and then reopening on Monday, February 8 at 5 a.m. for the rush hour. The lanes will then be closed again for roadway resurfacing from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday February 8. One traffic lane will remain open on Middlebrook Road in the eastbound direction.

The sidewalk on the south side along Middlebrook Road will also be closed from Great Seneca Highway to Cross Ridge Drive. Pedestrians will be detoured to the north side sidewalk.

Rescheduled!

Upcounty residents, organizations & businesses . . . Your comments are needed!



Leggett to Hold Public Forum on County's Operating Budget for Next Year
Monday, February 8 7:00pm
BlackRock Center for the Arts
12901 Town Commons Drive, Germantown

See calendar and map at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcg/calendar.html> The County Executive announces his Recommended Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Budget in March. The County Council must approve the operating budget by the end of May. Learn more about the County's operating budget at <https://reports.data.montgomerycountymd.gov/omb> !

Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible, but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If these or other services or aids are needed to participate in this activity, call 240-777-6507, TTY 240-773-3556 or email a request to Karen.falcon@montgomerycountymd.gov

Inclement weather policy for County-appointed boards, committees and commissions --- If Montgomery County Public Schools open late, morning meetings are cancelled. If schools close early, or if afternoon or evening activities are cancelled, afternoon and evening meetings are cancelled. If schools are closed all day, all meetings for that day and evening will be cancelled.

Dr. Jack Smith Appointed as Next Superintendent of Schools

The Montgomery County Board of Education conditionally selected Dr. Jack R. Smith as the next Superintendent of Schools for MCPS. Dr. Smith is currently the Maryland interim state superintendent of schools and previously served as superintendent of schools in Calvert County Public Schools. Pending approval from the state, Dr. Smith will begin his tenure on July 1. For more information, visit <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/mainstory/story.aspx?id=467343>

Montgomery County Public Libraries is Offering Two Free Special Events to Celebrate Read Africa

Montgomery County Public Libraries will offer two free special events in celebration of Read Africa. The events will celebrate the remarkable work of award-winning children's author Miranda Paul and Wangari Maathai, environmentalist, political activist, and first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

The Gaithersburg Branch will feature Paul's book, *One Plastic Bag: Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia*. The narrative picture book tells the story of how five Gambian women sparked a movement that would restore beauty to their village and increase their own economic capacity. The event will feature the book illustrator, Elizabeth Zunon as she demonstrates the unique recycling technique. The event will be held at 18330 Montgomery Village Ave. on February 6, from 2 to 4 p.m.

The Silver Spring Branch will feature a "Books to Brushes" painting party for youth age 11 and older. Books to Brushes introduces young people to participatory reading activities, followed by instructor-led painting sessions. The event showcases Maathai's book *The Woman Who Planted Millions of Trees*. The activity will be held on February 27 from 2 to 4 p.m. at 900 Wayne Avenue. Space is limited. Registration is required for this free event. [Click here to register.](#)

Read Africa are free programs sponsored in collaboration with Africa Access, the Center for African Studies at Howard University, Howard University's School of Education and Montgomery County Public Libraries.

To request sign language interpretation or other deaf/hard of hearing services for library-sponsored programs, email MCPL.DeafAccess@montgomerycountymd.gov, preferably with three business days' notice. To request other accommodations, contact the Gaithersburg Branch at 240-773-9490 or Silver Spring Branch at 240-773-9420.

For more information on this event or other library services visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library.

The Plum Gar Community Center Announces . . .

A Club Friday Valentine's Day Party
Friday, February 12 6:00pm-9:30pm
Plum Gar Community Recreation Center
19561 Scenery Drive, Germantown

This activity is for children in grades 2 through 6. Games, music, arts & crafts, video games, and movies! Snack bar items cost \$1. Please pre-register for this event at ActiveMontgomery.org, course #17213.

Contact the Center Director at 240-777-4919 prior to the event if you're a high school student and are interested in volunteering for SSL hours.

and

An ACT-SO Workshop
(in partnership with the NAACP)
Saturday, February 20 12:00n-4:00pm
Plum Gar Community Recreation Center
19561 Scenery Drive, Germantown

ACT-SO (the Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological, and Scientific Olympics) is a high school-level artistic and academic program and competition. Students create projects in up to 3 of 30 categories that include STEM, the Humanities, Performing Arts, Visual Arts, and Business. For additional information, contact: Pat Price at actsomc@gmail.com or Joann Burl at joannburl@yahoo.com

Rescheduled!

Public Hearing on Goshen Road South Project
Tuesday, March 1, 7:15 pm

Formal notifications will be mailed out starting next week.

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation's Division of Transportation Engineering will present a description of the proposed project and obtain input from the community. This is a facility planning phase II project to widen Goshen Road from the existing 2-lane roadway to a 4-lane, major divided highway with a 5-foot sidewalk and an 8-foot hiker/biker path and on-road bike lanes within a right-of-way from Girard Street to just north of Warfield Road in Gaithersburg, a distance of approximately 3.5 miles. For more about the project, visit <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/projects/goshen/index.html>

For more information and to forward written comments, contact:
Michael F. Mitchell, P.E., Program Manager
Design Section
Division of Transportation Engineering
Telephone: 240-777-7262
100 Edison Park Drive, 4 Floor
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878



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County Parks Department Wins Award for Germantown Town Center Urban Park!

Parks staff submitted the project and their women-led design consultant team of Shelley Rentsch, Robyn Barnhart, and Lindsey Whang Baker were recognized in the Built by Women DC design competition, sponsored by the Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation. The project was selected as one of 35 winning sites. This is a prestigious one-time competition to recognize outstanding built environments designed or constructed by women in the Washington, DC area since the 1970's. This competition occurred once previously in New York City. Thirty-six projects were recognized. The Park was one of only three projects recognized in the landscape category – the other two are the US National Arboretum and Dumbarton Oaks – not bad company!

(The all steel "tree sculpture" on the top row of photos is in the Park.)

Rescheduled!

Montgomery County Council's Town Hall Meeting for Clarksburg Area

Wednesday, March 2 8:00pm

Rocky Hill Middle School

22401 Brick Haven Way, Clarksburg

(a pre-meeting reception will begin at 7:30pm)

The Montgomery County Council, which each year holds Town Hall Meetings throughout the County in its efforts to find out what issues most concern residents, will meet with residents of the County's fastest-growing community when it hosts a Town Hall Meeting for Clarksburg. The Council originally planned to host the Town Hall Meeting for Clarksburg on Jan. 27, but that meeting was postponed following the overwhelming snow storm that hit the Washington region that week. Residents will be encouraged to ask questions on any issue. Among the issues that are expected to be discussed are the continued development of Clarksburg, the impact on the community of the future outlet mall, efforts to protect the Ten Mile Creek area, schools, transportation needs, public safety including the location of a new fire station and the upcoming process to formulate the County's Fiscal Year 2017 operating budget.

The meeting will be recorded by County Cable Montgomery (CCM—cable Channel 6 on Comcast and RCN, Channel 30 on Verizon) and rebroadcast at various times in the weeks following the meeting. Susan Kenedy, a producer for the County station, will moderate the meeting.

For more information regarding the Town Hall Meeting, call 240-777-7931.



A Conference on Healthy Dating Relationships for Teens

Sunday, March 20 1:00pm-4:00pm

Richard Montgomery High School

250 Richard Montgomery Drive, Rockville

(doors open at 12:15pm)

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) is partnering this year with the Family Justice Center Foundation and the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council of Montgomery County to present this conference on healthy dating relationships for teens. The conference is open to students in Grades 6-12. There will be prizes for early registrants and early arrivers at the conference. The school with the highest level of participation will be recognized. There also will be separate breakout sessions for parents, youth service providers, and school personnel to attend.

Online pre-registration started on January 18, 2016, but attendees can also register the day of the conference.

For more information, visit <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/fjc/chooserespect.html>

Did you know? . . .

The Upcounty region has three Chambers of Commerce that serve and advocate for the business community:

Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce

www.ggchamber.org

Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce

www.poolesvillechamber.com

Clarksburg Chamber of Commerce (recently re-organized and re-launched)

www.clarksburgchamberofcommerce.com

For more News from the Office of the County Executive, visit: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news>

For other news and meeting agendas, visit:

County Council <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/cs/templ.asp?url=/content/council/news/news.asp>

Planning Board http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/departments/news_releases

Also check out the latest from:

Department of Public Libraries <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library>

Department of Recreation <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/rectmpl.asp?url=/content/rec/index.asp>

Department of Transportation <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html>

Department of Environmental Protection <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/deatmpl.asp?url=/content/dep/dephome/index.asp>

Department of Permitting Services <http://permittingservices.montgomerycountymd.gov/DPS/general/Home.aspx>

Montgomery County Volunteer Center <http://www.montgomeryserves.org>

Office of Community Partnerships <http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs100/1102184431012/archive/1117215431562.html>

Commission for Women <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw/index.html>